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## Poland

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Partisan and Resistance Activities/  
Attitudes Toward Collectivization  
and Communism

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1. Q. Do you know of any anti-Communist groups in Poland?  
A. No, I have no knowledge of any. Being in the military service, there was no opportunity for me to know of such things. If such groups are in existence, I am sure that knowledge of such is kept secret.
2. Q. Do you have any idea of anyone belonging to any type of anti-Communist organization or group?  
A. Things of this nature, too, are definitely not discussed anywhere.
3. Q. Are there any rumors of anti-Communist groups?  
A. If such a rumor were heard, it would be reported. As a consequence, if a person knew of such a group, he would keep the information to himself.
4. Q. Have you heard any rumor of sabotage or sabotage activities?  
A. I have heard of sabotage activities, but as to the exact nature I have no idea of the type.
5. Q. What do you know of Soviet officers in the Polish military service?  
A. Soviet officers in the military service of the Polish Army have the capacity of commanders trying to pass off as Polish citizens. They wear Polish uniforms and they speak some Polish. There are others who speak no Polish at all.
6. Q. What do you know about security troops and border troops?  
A. I know that they have such organizations, but I know nothing specific about them.
7. Q. Can you give us abbreviations of various units?  
A. One is the KBW, the Internal Security Corps. These are regular military forces. Persons drafted into the service are assigned to this organization. Their uniform is completely green; the cap is piped in dark blue. The weapons of the KBW are the same as those used in the Soviet Army. The members of the KBW are Polish. These troops are used for the purpose of suppressing partisan groups. To aid them in such activities, aircraft is made available.

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8. Q. Do you have any information on passive resistance in factories?

A. Due to the fact that the average person must make sufficient wage to exist tends to discourage passive resistance. Wages are very poor. Just as an example, one month's wages will buy a pair of shoes.

9. Q. What is the food situation?

A. Very poor. Although rationing cards are no longer necessary, food is still scarce.

10. Q. What do you think is the reason for this food shortage?

A. The post-World War II period has not made possible to date the realization of a full recovery of food production. The Soviet reasons are that as in the USSR food is available because the USSR has been socialized, and with time Poland will also realize the same successes.

11. Q. Are the farmers accepting collectivization, since before World War II Polish farmers were more or less subject to the landlords?

A. At the present time collectivization has by no means improved the lot of farmers and they are much opposed, as they are taught that the farm does not belong to any one individual, but to all. It is very hard for the farmers to comprehend the idea of working the land for the State. The farmers cannot be convinced that their lot has been improved by collectivization, since everything is broken down to specialties. One may tend to the pigs, another takes care of the cows, another may milk the cows, and each person has some definite task to perform. The benefit of all that work is for the State. As a consequence, a person can't afford to drink a little milk when he feels like it, or bake his bread as he sees fit. Everything tends toward regimentation. There are some farmers who own their own land, but taxes and obligations to the State are so great that no benefit can be derived. As a consequence, the pressure becomes so great that eventually the farmer is forced to turn his property over to the State.

I have heard that in some instances there are people who work on these collective farms who are allowed to keep a little garden plot, a few chickens and pigs. I have been led to believe that there are three types of farm living quarters: first, all farm workers and their families live in one building; second, individual homes; I have heard there is a third type, but do not know what it is.

Although the farmer was subjected to the landlord in the old regime, he still had the possibility of earning a little money by taking the few products that were available to him to the market place and selling them. Now everything that is produced is generally sent out for export. The Communist story as told to the people is that the export of all this makes possible the improvement of such things as the Air Force, and makes steel available for strengthening Poland. Communists say that first all must suffer, and after the ideals are reached, life can be fully enjoyed.

12. Q. Can you give us an example of why you say passive resistance is impossible?

A. Yes. Immediately after work, women factory workers rush to the stores, seeking food. If one is heard complaining, the Security Police apprehends her, takes her to the police station, detains her for an approximate period of fifteen minutes, and upon departure the victim has nothing but the highest praise for the Communist system.

13. Q. Do you know of any anti-Jewish activities in Poland?

A. No. As far as I know, there are no acts against the Jews, although I have heard that some Jews were caught spying for the Soviets, and I do not know how they were disposed of or what was done with them. It is interesting to note that Jewish practices have been relaxed as a consequence of food shortages. Their eating habits are the same as anyone else's. Synagogues are practically non-existent. In the early part of the post-World War II period the Soviets treated all Jews especially well, and publicized that fact. Since that time the Jews have been handled in the same manner as the rest of the population. The Communists do not seem to take advantage of the propaganda angle any longer, since the time when many were emigrating to Palestine.

14. Q. Do they have any women in the Polish services?

A. It isn't the practice to draft women into the service, and as far as I know there are only three women in the Polish Air Force. One is a Captain and two, Lieutenants. That Captain taught me how to fly.

15. Q. Do you have chaplains or chapels in the military service?

A. No, there are none. Those in the service are discouraged from attending religious services, but if a man goes on pass and happens to want to go to church, he can do so.

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16. Q. What influence does Communism have on the youth of Poland? Does the youth believe in Communism?
- A. The Communists teach one thing and the people believe another. What the youth think, nobody knows, and such matters are not discussed.
17. Q. What do you know about the informer question?
- A. In reference to this program, it is difficult to explain. There seems to be no consistency in the emotions of any particular individual. In one moment, he may inform on his own brother, in the next moment he may turn himself in for no apparent reason. Then there are various degrees of Communist loyalty, one of which is partisan loyalty for the Communist Party.
18. Q. What are the classifications of the informer program?
- A. The only recognized, official informer plays a dual capacity. He is the unit political officer, who is responsible for the propagation of Communism, as well as concerning himself with the morale-proper of his particular unit. In the course of his activities if he overhears or observes anything of a detrimental nature, his job is to report this fact. Other informants fall into various categories, which are not designated so officially. One type may be extremely quiet, another overly friendly, and due to these various characteristics, it is best not to conduct oneself too carelessly in their presence. Then there is another type who enters the informant service for the purpose of concealing other pursuits prejudicial to the Party, such as defecting from the country.

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